Ala
286
(40th) (1877)
Baptist
Association

MINUTES

OF THE

Fortieth Annual Session

OF THE

Beulah Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

DARIEN CHURCH, TALLAPOOSA CO., ALA.,

September 11th, 12th and 13th, 1877.

Officers:

ELDER W. M. MITCHELL.....MODERATOR.
BRO. W. P. FINLEY.....CLERK.

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MINUTES.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. W. H. CLIETT, from the 2d. Chapter of Ephesians, 4th. and 5th. verses, inclusive: "*But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ: (by grace ye are saved.)*"

After an intermission of sixty minutes, the Messengers from the Churches composing the Association convened and proceeded to the business of the body. Prayer by Elder E. Phillips, of the New Hope.

Called for and read letters from the Churches, enrolled the names of the Messengers and minuted their condition, as follows:

STATE OF THE CHURCHES:

DISTRICTS.	CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	MESSENGERS' NAMES. Ordained Ministers denoted by SMALL CAPITALS, Licentiates denoted by a *.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	On Confn. Faith.	Dismissed by Ltr.	Excluded.	Restored.	Dead.	Total Members.	Money for Minis.	Days of Meeting.
1st District.	Sharon	Tallapoosa	J E W HENDERSON, A J Hicks	3	4	..	5	1	..	2	56	2 00	4
	Shiloh	Tallapoosa	E F Ware, W H Fallen	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	31	1 50	1
	Canaan	Tallapoosa	J Hicks, Z Ware	1	5	..	3	2	..	3	32	2 00	3
	Concord	Tallapoosa	H F Norris, W H Newell	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22	1 60	2
	Emmaus	Chambers.	J H SHIRLEY, A M Jennings	2	2	..	1	..	..	..	22	1 25	3
	Bethlehem	Macon	*J S Baxley, M B Merchant	2	..	..	3	..	..	..	21	2 50	2
	Mt. Olive	Lee	W M MITCHELL, *M F Hurst	..	1	..	5	1	..	4	45	2 75	4
	Mt. Gilead	Lee	Not Represented. Last year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	.....	3
	Hephzibah	Lee	T P Hasty	..	..	..	3	3	..	2	17	1 50	1
	Ephesus	Chambers.	Letter. No messengers	2	..	..	1	1	..	1	14	1 00	2
	Ft. Bainb'dge	Russell	Not Represented. In 1873, it stood	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	.....	5
	Union	Russell	Not Represented. In 1876, it stood	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	.....	1
2d District.	Sharon	Chambers	J J Brooks, J A Veazey	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	25	1 50	3
	Mt. Pisgah	Chambers.	W P Finley, Isaac Stephens	1	2	..	12	3	1	..	42	2 00	1
	Beulah	Troup.	J C JACKSON, O Whatley	1	5	..	..	2	1	..	49	2 00	2
	County Line	Heard	A B WHATLEY	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	61	2 00	4
	Salem	Randolph	C S TATE, J J Hearn	1	1	2	12	..	..	1	35	1 50	3
	Rocky Mt.	Tallapoosa	W C Stephens, W M Hall	1	..	..	1	4	..	2	42	1 50	1
	Darien	Tallapoosa	W Y Norman, J C Carter	6	3	..	..	..	1	1	58	2 00	4
3d District.	Concord	Randolph	R H Duke, H Liles	1	..	..	3	1	2	..	34	3 00	4
	Zion's Rest	Randolph	S S Taylor, J B Harrison	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	18	1 00	3
	Mt Hickory.	Chambers	J W H CLIETT, S G Higgins	1	3	..	4	3	..	..	106	3 00	3
4th District.	Macedonia	Chambers	W C Lowe, R C Germany	12	3	..	3	1	1	3	98	3 50	2

Explanation—All the Churches of this Association are in Alabama, except those in Troup and Heard counties, which are in Georgia.

RECAPITULATION.—Baptized, 40; Received by Letter, 33; Received on Confession of Faith, 2; Dismissed by Letter, 58; Excluded, 23; Restored, 6; Dead, 22; Total Membership, 908; Money for Associational Purposes, $39.10.

Invited visiting ministers and brethren to seats.

On motion of Bro. J. C. Carter, proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the choice of Elder W. M. Mitchell, Moderator, and Bro. W. P. Finley, Clerk.

On motion of Elder A. B. Whatley, the following committees were appointed :

To Arrange Preaching :—Elders A. B. Whatley, J. E. W. Henderson; Bro. H. F. Norris, with the delegates of this church, brethren J. C. Carter and W. Y. Norman.

To Arrange Business to Come before the Body :—Elders J. W. H. Cliett, J. C Jackson ; Bro. R. C. Germany.

To Write Corresponding Letter :—Bro. J. S. Baxley.

To Examine Corresponding Minutes :—Elder J. H. Shirley ; Brethren M. F. Hurst, O. Whatley.

Called for Petitionary Churches.—None presented.

Called for Correspondents from sister Associations :

From Primitive Western.—Elder B. C. Caldwell and Bro. G. A. Myhand, with minutes.

From New Hope.—Elder E. Phillips, with minutes.

From Hillabee.—Elder R. W. Carlisle and Brethren A. W. Carter, James Cardwell, J. W. Carlisle, F. M. Nelson and James Welch, with minutes.

From Upatoie.—No tidings.

From Wetumpka.—Elder J. L. Lambreth.

From Cane Creek.—Elder G. B. Knight and Bro. J. B. Creed, with minutes.

From Conecuh River.—No tidings.

From Harmony.—No tidings.

On motion of Bro. J. C. Carter, the Association adjourned till tomorrow morning, half after 8 o'clock. Prayer by Elder J. L. Lambreth, of the Wetumpka.

Note.—The preaching brethren who occupied the stand this day were as follows, to-wit : In the Forenoon, J. W. H. Cliett, A. B. Whatley. In the Afternoon, G. B. Knight, B. C. Caldwell.

Wednesday Morning, Half after 8 O'clock, Sept. 12, 1877,

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder G. B. Knight, of the Cane Creek.

On motion the report of the brethren on the Order of Business was read and adopted.

Called the roll of Messengers and read Decorum.

Renewed the invitation to visiting ministers and brethren.

Returned Correspondents to sister Associations:

To PRIMITIVE WESTERN.—To convene with the church at Emmaus, Troup Co., Ga., three miles south of Hogansville, commencing on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in Oct., 1877: Elders A. B. Whatley. J. W. H. Cliett, J. C. Jackson, W. M. Mitchell. and Brethren M. F. Hurst and O. Whatley, with minutes.

To THE NEW HOPE.—To convene with the church at Macedonia, Harraison Co., Ga., three miles south of Buchannon, commencing on Wednesday before the 2d. Sunday in Oct., 1877: Elders J. W. H. Cliett and J. C. Jackson, with minutes.

To CONECUH RIVER.—To convene with the church at Elam, near Goshen Hill, Pike Co., Ala., commencing on Saturday before the 2d. Sunday in Oct., 1877: No correspondents agreed to go, send minutes.

To HARMONY.—To convene with the church at Mount Olive, Chattahoochee Co., Ga., commencing on Saturday before the 2d. Sunday in Oct., 1877: Elder W. M. Mitchell, Bro. M. F. Hurst, with minutes

To UPATOIE.—To convene with the church at ————, ———— Co., Ga., commencing on Tuesday after the 1st. Sunday in Sept. 1878: Elder J. E. W. Henderson and Bro. M. F. Hurst, with minutes.

To HILLABEE.—To Convene with the church at Macedonia, Clay Co., Ala., two and one half miles north-east of Ashland, commencing on Saturday before the 1st. Sunday in Oct. 1877: Elder J. H. Shirley and Brethren W. C. Stephens, E. F. Ware, W. Y. Norman, H. Liles and J. J. Hearn, with minutes.

To WETUMPKA.—To convene with the church at Bethel, Chilton Co., Ala., on the North & South R. R., on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in Sept. 1877: Brethren J. S. Baxley and W. H. Fallen.

To CANE CREEK.—To convene with the church at Providence, Cherokee Co., Ala., six miles west of Cave Spring, on the old Tuscaloosa road, commencing on Saturday before the 3d. Sunday in Oct., 1877: Elder J. W. H. Cliett.

Read and adopted the Corresponding Letter, prepared by Brother J. S. Baxley.

Called for report of Committee on Examination of Minutes: They report that they find nothing claiming special attention from this body.

Appointed Union meetings, (3d. District having first choice of time):

FIRST DISTRICT.—With the church at Sharon, Tallapoosa Co., Ala., commencing on Friday before the 4th. Sunday in August, 1878.

SECOND DISTRICT.—With the church at Hephzibah, Lee Co., Ala., commencing on Friday before the 5th. Sunday in March, 1878.

THIRD DISTRICT.—With the church at Mount Pisgah, Chambers Co., Ala., commencing on Friday before the 1st. Sunday in August, 1878.

FOURTH DISTRICT.—With the church at Darien, Tallapoosa Co. Ala., commencing on Friday before the 5th. Sunday in June, 1878.

Called for requests of churches and noticed the request of the churches soliciting a change in the *time* of the session of this body, and by vote it was determined that the next annual session of this body commence on *Saturday before the third Sunday* (in Sept. 1878.)

Also, on motion agreed to publish the Articles of Faith of this Association in the body of these minutes.

Appointed committee on Finance, distributed corresponding minutes, and received contributions from the churches amounting to ..... $39 10.

Paid for printing minutes ..... $21 00.

Leaving a balance of ..... $18 10.

On motion agreed to have 1,000 copies of these minutes printed. Instructed Bro. Clerk to superintend the same, and distribute a pro rata share among the churches, after reserving a proper amount for corresponding Associations, and retain the residue of funds on hand after discharging said duties, as compensation for his services.

Appointed the next annual session of this body to be held with the church at Shiloh, Tallapoosa Co., Ala., eleven miles south of Dadeville, twelve miles north of Notasulga and eight miles east of the Double Bridges, commencing on *Saturday* before the 3d. Sunday in September, 1878.

Having finished the usual business in the house, on motion, repaired to the stand, where after preaching by the brethren appointed for the day, to-wit: In the Fore-noon, R. W. Carlisle, J. L. Lambreth; In the After-noon, E. Phillips, J. E. W. Henderson, adjourned till Thursday morning, 9 o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, 9 O'clock, Sept. 13, 1877.

The Association convening again according to adjournment, the following ministering brethren came forward in the order of their names and preached to large and attentive congregations the unsearchable riches of Christ: In the Fore-noon, W. M. Mitchell, J. C. Jackson. In the Afternoon, E. Phillips, B. C. Caldwell, J. S. Baxley and M. F. Hurst. After which finally adjourned to the time and place already designated. Prayer by Eld. E. Phillips.

W. P. FINLEY, *Clerk.* W. M. MITCHELL, Moderator.

NOTE.—From the best information I could obtain, there were present of our faith and order, including those from corresponding bodies, eleven ordained preachers and two licentiates, which latter are members of the Beulah.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

FIRST.—We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three Persons in the God-head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

SECOND.—We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of Faith and Practice.

THIRD.—We believe that God elected, or chose, His people in Christ before the foundation of the world, that they should be holy and without blame before Him in love.

FOURTH—We believe in the doctrine of original sin, and of man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state that he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability.

FIFTH.—We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.

SIXTH.—We believe that God's elect shall be called effectually, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost, and shall persevere in grace, and never finally fall away.

SEVENTH.—We believe that baptism and the Lords supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of those ordinances; and that the true mode of baptism is Immersion.

EIGHTH.—We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment; that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

NINTH.—We believe no minister has the right to administer the ordinances only such as are called of God, as was Aaron, and come under the imposition of hands by a Presbytery, and is in full fellowship with the church of which he is a member.

TENTH.—We believe that God has ordained good works, that His children should walk in them; and that good works are only such as God has commanded in His word, and not such, as without the warrant thereof, are devised by men out of blind zeal, or upon any pretense of good intentions.

ELEVENTH.—We, therefore, believe that washing the saints' feet was ordained by Christ, to be done by His children in a church capacity until His second coming.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Beulah Baptist Association, in session with the church at Darien, Tallapoosa Co., Ala., to the sister Associations with whom she corresponds,—Greeting.

DEAR BRETHREN:—Through the goodness of God we have been permitted to hold another session of our body, and we hope we are thankful for his goodness in gathering us together again to worship him. All the churches composing our body are represented but three, and the ingatherings though small, yet they testify that they are at peace as churches. Beloved brethren, we highly appreciate your christian correspondence, and though not so full as we had desired, yet it is precious and encouraging, and your ministers in their labor of love among us have indeed manifested great zeal and love for the truth; and we have been made to rejoice while they spake of the things concerning the kingdom of God. We earnestly solicit a continuance of your friendly correspondence.

The names of our appointed correspondents will appear in the body of these minutes.

The next annual session of this body is appointed to be held with the church at Shiloh, Tallapoosa Co., Ala., eleven miles south of Dadeville, and twelve miles north of Notasulga, Ala., commencing on Saturday before the 3d. Sunday in September, 1878, where we hope to meet you again.

W. M. MITCHELL,
Moderator.

W. P. FINLEY,
Clerk.

POST OFFICE ADDRESS.

	CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICES.
1st. District.	Sharon, Tallap'sa,	J. E. W. Henderson ..	Notasulga, ...Ala.
	Shiloh	J. H. Shirley	Jones' X Roads...."
	Canaan	J. E. W. Henderson ..	Waverly, ..."
2d. District.	Concord, Tallap'sa	W. M. Mitchell.....	Dadeville, ..."
	Emmaus	J. H. Shirley	Dudleyville, ..."
	Bethlehem	J. S. Baxley.....	Notasulga, ..."
	Mount Olive....	W. M. Mitchell	Opelika,..... "
	Mount Gilead ..	L. B. Porter	Salem,..... "
	Hephzibah.....	————	Opelika, ... "
3d. District.	Ephesus	M. F. Hurst.....	West Point,.....Ga.
	Ft. Bainbridge ..	—— ——.....	Opelika, ...Ala.
	Union	L. Porter	Crawford,..... "
4th. District.	Sharon, Chambers	J. C. Jackson	Fredonia, ..."
	Mount Pisgah ...	J. C Jackson	Fredonia, ..."
	Beulah	H. S. Burson	Antioch,.....Ga.
	County Line ..	A. B. Whatley.....	Houston ....."
	Salem	C. S. Tate.....	Rock Mills,.....Ala.
	Rocky Mount ..	Jethro Oats	Daviston, ..."
	Darien	J. H. Shirley	Daviston, ..."
	Concord, Rand'ph	J. C. Jackson	Louina, ..."
	Zion's Rest.....	T. N. Lipham.....	Roanoke, ..."
	Mount Hickory..	J. W. H. Cliett.....	Milltown....."
	Macedodia	A. B. Whatley.....	La Fayette, ... Ala

Received of W. P. Finley, Clerk of the Beulah Baptist Association, Twenty-one Dollars, ($21.00.) for printing, packing and delivering 1,000 copies of these minutes.

Oct. 1877. BLEDSOE & RICHARDS, Editors and Proprietors CLIPPER.

ERATUM...On page 2, line 23, instead of "No tidings," read "Received minutes, no correspondents."